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Confessions of a Railroad Signaller. By J. O. FAGAN.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Co., 1908. Pp. 181.

All the world knows the unenviable reputation of American railroads as killers and mutilators of men. Most citizens have given considerable attention to protective devices, patent couplers, block signals and short-hour laws. Commissions have been appointed to regulate rates and report slaughter. Mr. Fagan says the public is off the scent; that commissions do not understand the technique of railroading and that managers are in secret agreement with trade unions in the interest of "harmony" to permit shameful negligence to go unpunished. The remedy is expert control by the government, public punishment of the guilty party, and rigid enforcement of discipline. The trade unions, the railroad managers and the State and federal commissioners will be heard in defense. In the meantime they are put on the defensive by a fearless man who has won a right to be heard by mastery of his field and by the devotion of a trained and philosophic mind to a problem of vital significance.

C. R. HENDERSON

The Principles of Anthropology and Sociology in Their Relations to Criminal Procedure. By MAURICE PARMELEE. New York: Macmillan, 1908. Pp. 410.

Mr. Parmelee's book comes at a very opportune moment, for it will be a distinct aid to the movement to secure the study of anthropology and sociology by lawyers and judges. The argument is too clear and convincing to be ignored and it will make its appeal to all lawyers who have any insight whatever into the modern requirements in respect to the treatment of criminals. The suggestion in regard to a judicial board for the periodical revision of the sentences of convicts is well supported, and had already been proposed by the American Prison Association in 1902.

The philosophic basis of the argument is found in the familiar ideas of Lombroso, Garofalo, and Ferri. Justice is not done to such American authors as E. C. and F. H. Wines, Z. R. Brockway and many others whose ideas are found in this book. The discussion of the jury is very impressive and convincing and his suggestions for a new criminal procedure, based upon modern social science, must win friends for these studies.

C. R. HENDERSON